

WHITE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
APRIL 12, 2005

A special meeting of the White County Board begun and holden this 12th day of April 2005 in the Courtroom of the White County Courthouse in the City of Carmi.

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Clerk Dozier called the roll with Nelson, Ray, Mitchell, Trout and Wooten all present.

Chairman Wooten asked the Board if they had received copies of the minutes of the previous meeting and were there any additions, changes or deletions. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion that the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting be waived and that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as proposed in writing. Motion seconded by Trout. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten asked for a motion to pay all current bills. Mr. Trout made a motion to pay all current bills, seconded by Nelson. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Clerk Dozier stated that the April 5, 2005 election ran very smoothly and there were no problems with the optical scan equipment used in this election.

Mr. Trout stated that the Ambulance Service had provided their report in writing to the Board but in the month of March they had billed for \$49,000.00 in ambulance runs and had collected \$16,000.00. The ambulance service has a total of \$226,000.00 they have billed to Medicare and Medicaid which has not been processed.

Sheriff Doug Maier stated that the total jail expense was a little higher this month because of the purchase of the new transport van. Sheriff Maier stated that the jail income was \$65,077.52 and that they had currently billed \$139,743.95 for prisoner keep for the month of March. He stated that the City/County Jail population was 128. Sheriff Maier stated that the Sheriff's Department had handled 368 calls in the month of March. He stated that individuals reporting suspicious activity made 11 calls. Sheriff Maier thanked the public for their interest and their help in fighting the battle with meth. Sheriff Maier stated that the county had 4 seized vehicles and 3 old county squads that he would like to sell by sealed bid. Sheriff Maier stated that he was waiting for a title for one of the seized vehicles, which would take around three to four weeks. Sheriff Maier stated that once he received the title he would advertise for bids and also mail out bid requests to the individuals who participated in prior sales. Chairman Wooten stated that it would be necessary to declare the county squad cars excess equipment at the May meeting.

Chairman Wooten stated that the Budget Committee met prior to the County Board meeting and that for the month of March the county had \$8,000.00 more income than expenditures. Chairman Wooten praised the elected and appointed officials for staying within their budgets. He stated that the State reimbursements are still behind and it doesn't look as if it will be getting any better in the near future.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System Board meeting would be held on Monday, April 18, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom.

Chairman Wooten stated that he would entertain a motion for an Acting Director for the White County Ambulance Service. Mr. Trout made a motion that Mr. Roger Heckler is appointed as Acting Director of the White County Ambulance Service. Mr. Trout explained that medical control has been re-written and it would allow Mr. Heckler to run the business end of the Ambulance Service along with the Medical side of the Ambulance Service. Prior to medical control being re-written and approved an Assistant Director who qualified, as an E.M.T. was necessary to manage the ambulance runs and the personnel. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote. Mr. Trout stated that he would like to wait awhile before taking applications for the position of Director.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider the appointment of Tim Alcorn to the Little Wabash Fire Protection District to replace Dennis Campbell. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to appoint Tim Alcorn to Little Wabash Fire Protection District, seconded by Nelson. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten introduced Mr. Chuck Turner, a representative of the Grayville Senior Citizens. Mr. Turner came before the County Board to update the Board on the annual activities of the Grayville Senior Citizens and ask the Board for a contribution. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 to Grayville Senior Citizens, \$1,000.00 to Norris City Senior Citizens, \$1,000.00 to Enfield Senior Citizens and \$5,000.00 to Carmi-White County Senior Citizens. Motion seconded by Ray. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Sheriff Doug Maier informed the Board about that the Department of Justice had approved a grant in the amount of \$77,341.00 for a Resource Officer. The grant contains \$44,591.00 for officer's salary and fringe benefits and \$22,000.00 for a vehicle. Sheriff Maier stated that White County was contacted by the Department of Justice because of the high rate of arrests and convictions in White County for meth use, manufacture and distribution. Sheriff Maier stated that the Department of Justice asked how they could assist his Department with the war on drugs. Sheriff Maier informed them that he had placed Bob Sykes in the school system on a part-time basis as a Resource Officer and that his Department could use funding to make that position a full time position. Sheriff Maier and Mr. Sykes explained that the Dare program was a great program, but the officer only made contact with the child for one year. The new school Resource Officer will meet with 5th graders, 8th graders and then again in high school. The funding for a full time position will make it possible for Deputy Sykes to start a program in the high school. Sheriff Maier informed the Board that the funding was only for one year and to continue the program he will have to hunt additional funding or the program will have to return to a part-time position after this year. Sheriff Maier stated that the fuel for the resource officer's vehicle would have to come out of the sheriff's budget. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to accept the Department of Justice grant and to hire Bob Sykes as a full-time Resource Officer for one year. Motion seconded by Ray. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote. Mr. Mike Ray stated that his daughter teaches in the Grayville school system and has been very complimentary of Mr. Sykes and his rapport with the students. Mr. Sykes thanked Mr. Ray.

Chairman Wooten asked the Board for their endorsement for the 2005 Probation Plan. Mr. Ray on made the motion to endorse the current Probation Plan, seconded by Nelson. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider the re-appointment of Wanda Campbell to the Coleman Tri-County Services Board for a one-year appointment beginning May 2005. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to re-appoint Wanda Campbell to the Coleman Tri-County Services Board of Directors, seconded by Trout. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next County Board meeting would be held on May 10, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom.

Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to adjourn seconded by Trout. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.